

[at least three personal computers;]

a first mechanism for said network server to function [one said personal computer functioning] as a master in a shared processing operation, including parallel processing [or multi-processing] and multi-tasking, [operation] involving at least two [other said] personal computers, connected to said network server through the network, functioning as slaves to said master;

[hardware or software or firmware means] a second mechanism for said master [personal computer] network server to subdivide said operation into [two] a plurality of parts and to send one of said parts to each of said slaves for processing by said slaves; and

a compensation determining mechanism to determine compensation for processing services provided by said personal computers in said shared processing operation

[hardware or software or firmware means for said at least two slave personal computers to process said operation and send results back to said master when the operation is completed].

Kindly add the following new claims:

--9. (New) The network server of claim 1 wherein:  
said compensation determining mechanism determines a net charge based on a difference between a monitored provision to said network of a shared computing processing operation by one of said personal computers and a monitored use of said network services by said one personal computer,

said network server is configured to receive a measure of a provision of network services both to and by said one of the personal computers from a monitoring mechanism, and

said master network server is configured to receive processing results sent back to said master network server when the operation is completed by said slaves.

10. (New) The network server of claim 1, wherein said compensation includes a financial charge.

11. (New) The network server of claim 1, wherein said network server provides network services, including connection functions, which include providing access by one of said personal computers to said network.

12. (New) The network server according to claim 1, wherein said compensation includes a charge for access to said network by one of said personal computers.

13. (New) The network server according to claim 9, wherein said charge for said one personal computer is for a time period based on a difference between the monitored provision to said network of said shared computing processing operation by said one personal computer for said time period and use of said network services by said one personal computer during said time period.

14. (New) The network server according to claim 9, wherein said charge for said one personal computer is based on a difference between the monitored provision to said network of said shared computing processing by said one personal computer as measured by data throughput and use of said processing services by said one personal computer also as measured by the data throughput.--